

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 14, 16, 19, 22, 25, 26, 31 and 33 have been amended. New claims 34-39 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 14, 19 and 26 are independent claims.

INTERVIEW ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies shown to the undersigned during a telephonic interview held on March 22, 2007. During the interview, Figure 6 and paragraph [0030] were discussed. As discussed, Figure 6 in paragraph [0030] indicates that the HGRANT1 and HGRANT2 signals are generated beginning at the same time. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-35 are supported by the present specification.

Additionally, claims 25 and 33 were discussed with regard to the §101 rejection of these claims. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, Applicants have amended dependent claims 25 and 33 and added new claims 34-35, thereby obviating the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Further, the Kenny reference was discussed and it was pointed out to the Examiner that Kenny does not provide concurrent pseudo-grant signals. As discussed during the interview, as is clear from Figure 9A of Kenny, the pseudo-grant signal applied to CPU interface control 5, PCI controller 7, and GRPH8, namely, GRANT CHLNA, GRANT CHLNB and GRANT CHLNC are not provided at the same times, namely, T1, T3 and T5 and further, do not overlap at all and are therefore not concurrent. In contrast, the arbiter in example embodiments generate pseudo-grant signals HGRANT1, HGRANT2 to all requesting master units, for example master units 1 and 2 beginning at the same time, as shown in Figure 6 of the present application.

35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH REJECTION

Claims 1-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner asserts that the newly-added feature of independent claims 1, 14, 19 and 26 that a pseudo-grant signal is generated to all requesting master units at the same time is not supported by the original specification. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the HGRANT1 and HGRANT2 signals of Figure 6 and paragraph [0030] of the original specification, which are clearly indicated as being generated beginning at the same time.

In light of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §101 REJECTION

Claims 25 and 33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In light of the above amendments to claims 25 and 33, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) KENNY REJECTION

Claims 1-10, and 13-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,393,503 to Kenny. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In light of the above amendments to claims 1, 14, 19 and 26, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) KENNY REJECTION

Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenny. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 11 and 12 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 1, for at least the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-39 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

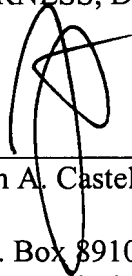
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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